

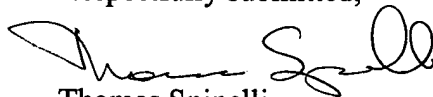
**REMARKS**

It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-identified application prior to examination.

By means of the present Preliminary Amendment, the specification has been amended to cross reference the parent application, PCT/JP02/11282. No new matter has been entered by way of the present preliminary amendment.

In view of the above, early and favorable consideration are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Spinelli", is written over the printed name.

Thomas Spinelli

Registration No.: 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser  
400 Garden City Plaza  
Garden City, New York 11530  
(516) 742-4343

TS:cm